

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 31, as follows:

For example, if a sending node wants to allocate additional resources to a channel, it may at any time ~~reserv~~ **reserve** additional time slots on the bitstream that it is connected to, as long as it marks the additional time slots as being idle and only transmits payload data in the time slots that already belonged to the channel prior to said allocation. When the sending node later receives information indicating that downstream nodes have allocated the desired extra bandwidth to the channel and/or are "listening" to the additional time slots, the sending node may at any time discontinue transmitting said information designating said additional time slot as being idle and instead start transmitting payload data using said additional time slots as well.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 8, as follows:

Consequently, said period of time will preferably end with, or shortly after, the reception at the sending node of information indicating that concerned downstream nodes ~~switchin~~ **switching** or receiving said channel have allocated the desired extra bandwidth to the channel and are listening thereto and/or are ready to switch data received therein. However, according to an alternative embodiment, said period of time will be fixed period of time. In such a case, the sending node, after having sent a request for additional capacity to concerned downstream nodes, and after having waited said fixed period of time, will assume that any intermediate nodes ~~switchin~~ **switching** said channel, and the receiving node listening to ~~[[sais]]~~ **said** channel, will have had enough time to allocate the necessary resources and to provide the necessary

mapping. The sending node will thus simply assume that the extra resources are "up and running" and consequently start transmitting payload data in said additional time slots. This, of course, may in some cases result in loss of data, but will on the other hand provide a simpler mechanism requiring less signaling.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 24, as follows:

The invention is also advantageous in the context of multi- or broadcasted channels having several receivers. According to one embodiment of the invention, if wanting to make sure that there is no data loss or the like at any one of the receivers of the channel, before discontinuing sending idle markings in the added time slots, each intermediate node shall make sure to receive information indicating that all downstream nodes receiving or switching said channel have acknowledged the bandwidth change before the intermediate node may go ahead and ~~[[sen]]~~ **send** an acknowledgement of (and start mapping from/to) the added time slots to the sender or the upstream next hop intermediate node. Thus, when the sender has received one or more acknowledgements indicating that all nodes receiving or switching said channel are "listening" to the added time slot, it may at any time start sending payload data thereon.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 3, as follows:

According to a preferred embodiment of the invention, the herein discussed bandwidth change instructions and/or bandwidth change acknowledgements are **preferably preferably** transmitted between nodes using control channels that are ~~[[are]]~~ established to comprise ~~[[on]]~~ **one** or more time slots on the bitstreams of the

network but are separated from the payload carrying channels, thereby not ~~interfering~~ interfering with the ongoing traffic.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 3, as follows:

~~For further~~ Further description of ways ~~[[of]]~~ to incorporate and detect as such the presence of information designating time slots as not providing payload data may for example be found in the co-pending patent application SE 9703449-0. For specific details on a preferred way of implement idle markings in for example a DTM network, reference may be made to currently ongoing DTM standardization procedure (Ref: ETSI ES 201 803) within the European Telecommunications Standards Institute, ETSI.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 17, as follows:

Having decided which time slots to deallocate from said channel, node 111 will start marking the time slot selected to be deallocated as idle, but will continue to transmit payload data into the time slot not selected to be deallocated. In Fig. 3e, node 111 has decided to deallocate the second time slot within each frame on bitstream 101 from said channel and is thus transmitting payload data into slot one and idle markings into slot two (as illustrated with an x-marking), which is then mapped by node 112 and 113 to reach node 114 in time slot four within each frame on bitstream 103. Hence, at this point, the idle marked time slots arriving at node 114 in time slot four of bitstream 103 are consequently discarded by node 114.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 19, as follows:

In Fig. 5, to increase the bandwidth of a multicast channel established with node 111 as sender, nodes 114 and 115 as receivers, and nodes 112 and 113 as intermediate switching nodes, node 111 ~~reserves~~ reserves (RES) the required additional slots on its bitstream 101 and, in doing so, starts transmitting idle markings therein (while still transmitting payload data in the channel's original slots). Node 111 then sends a change request message ~~[[CH]]~~ (BC) in a control channel to node 112. Receiving this message, node 112 ~~similarly reserves~~ similarly reserves the required additional slots on its bitstream 102, starts transmitting idle markings therein (while still mapping data from/to the channel's original slots), and sends a similar change request message in a control channel to node 113. Receiving this message, node 113 ~~similarly reserves~~ similarly reserves the required additional slots on its bitstream 103, starts transmitting idle markings therein (while still mapping data from/to the channel's original slots), and sends a similar change request message in a multicasted control channel to nodes 114 and 115.